Manitoba

Annual Report 1990 - 91

Seniors Directorate

Minister responsible
for Seniors

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

The Honourable George Johnson
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba
Room 235 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

May It Please Your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting for the information of Your Honour, the Annual Report of the Manitoba Seniors Directorate for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Ducharme
Minister responsible for Seniors

Manitoba

Seniors Directorate

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The Honourable Gerry Ducharme
Minister responsible for Seniors
330 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Minister:

I submit for your approval the 1990/91 Annual Report of the Manitoba Seniors Directorate.

During the year the Directorate continued to meet its objectives in acting as a central source of contact for seniors, seniors organizations and government. The Directorate also continued to provide information for seniors on issues of interest to them.

In addition, work continued on promoting the interests of seniors and ensuring that programs and policies were sensitive to their needs and concerns.

As well, the Manitoba Seniors Directorate is active in heightening public awareness on the issue of Elder Abuse. The Seniors Directorate has initiated a partnership with the Federal Government to develop a financial elder abuse educational package.

The accomplishments outlined in this Annual Report reflect our commitment to the seniors of Manitoba.

Respectively submitted,

Kathy Yurkowski

Kathy Yurkowski
Executive Director

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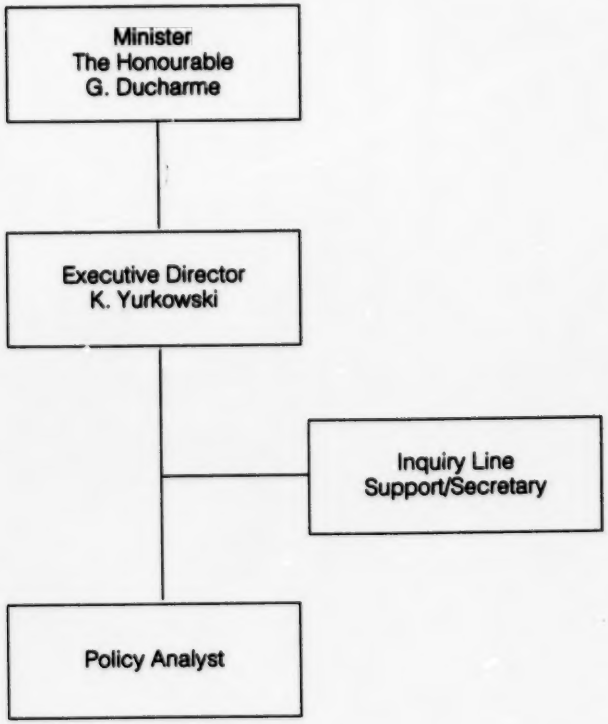
Organization Chart — Seniors Directorate

As at March 31, 1991



Preface

Report Structure

The Annual Report is organized in accordance with the departmental appropriation structure which reflects the department's authorized votes approved by the Legislative Assembly. The Report includes information at the appropriation level relating to the department's objectives, actual results achieved, financial performance, and provides a five year historical table giving the departmental expenditures and staffing.

Mandate

The Manitoba Seniors Directorate provides a central government contact by coordinating and ensuring easy access to, and input into government programs, policies and services to senior citizens.

In addition, the Directorate advises the Government, through the Minister responsible for Seniors, on matters relating to seniors, with the objective of promoting the interests of seniors and to ensure programs and policies are sensitive to their needs and concerns.

The Seniors Directorate offers information, referral and liaison services to seniors throughout Manitoba from its branch offices located in Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and The Pas. Outreach staff, Portage la Prairie and The Pas, provide this function on behalf of both the Manitoba Seniors Directorate and the Women's Directorate.

Branch policy and outreach staff work in cooperation with government departments and agencies, crown corporations, the private sector and the community in order to eliminate barriers, enhance services and increase issue awareness for seniors.

While the Seniors Directorate is not governed by specific legislation, the responsibility for the approval of seniors' policies rests with the Cabinet Committee for Senior Citizens. The Seniors Directorate reports to the Minister responsible for Seniors in his role as Chair of the Cabinet Committee for Senior Citizens.

Committee members include the Minister responsible for Seniors, Minister of Health, Minister of Family Services and Minister of Housing/Urban Affairs.

Organization

The Seniors Directorate's organizational structure is depicted on page 8. The role, responsibility and year-end staffing is outlined in this Annual Report.

Narrative

During 1990/91, the Manitoba Seniors Directorate continued to provide a central source of contact between seniors and the provincial government. This was accomplished by the Directorate working with the numerous seniors organizations throughout Manitoba and consulting on issues and concerns. The information line continued to be utilized by seniors accessing information in regards to government programs. Utilization of the line increased as more seniors have become aware of the service. The aim of the information line is to minimize the number of telephone calls a senior makes to access information, with the Directorate providing the necessary information quickly. With the positive feedback the Directorate has received regarding the information line, it appears we have been able to provide this service.

The two information brochures, "Manitoba Seniors Directorate Information Guide", and "Questions to Ask Your Doctor and Pharmacist on Taking Medication", were widely distributed throughout the Province. "Questions to Ask Your Doctor and Pharmacist on Taking Medication" was not only well received by the seniors but also by the professionals. Many hospitals and pharmacies requested the brochures in order to make them available to their patients and clients. Therefore the popularity of these pamphlets necessitated a second printing. The Directorate, recognizing the need to make all information accessible to different cultures, has printed these pamphlets in French, Ukrainian, German, with the intention of expanding this to additional languages in the coming years.

The consultations of elder abuse continued into 1990, ending in the Spring. The Directorate met with approximately 1000 Manitobans and received 53 submissions during the consultation process. The consultations made the Minister responsible for Seniors and the Directorate aware of what the major issues are for seniors.

The consultations identified financial abuse as the most reported form of elder abuse. Seniors expressed a need for more information on how to recognize potentially abusive situations and how to protect themselves from financial abuse.

In response to this concern, the Directorate began consulting with seniors, the Federal Government and the Canadian Bankers Association, to formulate some mechanism to provide the necessary information to seniors. The Directorate therefore developed a partnership with the Federal Government and a working relationship with the Canadian Bankers Association. The Seniors Directorate is commencing the development of an informational package on the subject of financial elder abuse. The package, once completed, will include a video with four scenarios of potential financial abuse situations, a handbook, brochures and a poster. The three informational brochures to be available in English and French, are on power of attorney, home repair fraud and how to recognize and avoid financial abuse.

The Seniors Directorate has worked in partnership with seniors organizations in four different regions of the Province to plan special seniors day events to recognize and celebrate the many contributions made by seniors in the settlement and growth of Manitoba. During Seniors Month, June 1990, events were held in Winnipeg, Brandon, Dauphin and The Pas.

A Transportation Committee, composed of representatives from various government departments and seniors organizations, was active in looking at options for seniors. During 1990/91, the committee continued to explore transportation alternatives, meeting with corporate sponsors and community groups. They began work with the Transport Institute on a three phased project on transportation needs for seniors. Phase One was the deveiopment of a compendium of transport services for seniors available in Winnipeg. The second and third phase will include transportation needs of seniors as well as a comparison study of services for seniors in comparable cities.

The Seniors Directorate continued to work in conjunction with government departments and agencies, crown corporations, the private sector and the community in order to eliminate barriers, enhance services and increase opportunities for seniors.

24-1 Seniors Directorate

Expenditures by Main Appropriation	Actual 1990-91 $	Estimate 1990-91 SY	Estimate 1990-91 $	Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
Total Salaries	116,300	3.00	113,400	2,900	
Total Other Expenditures	141,400		163,600	(22,200)	

Seniors Directorate

Expenditure Summary

for fiscal year ended March 31, 1991
with comparative figures for the previous fiscal year

Estimates 1990-91		Appropriation	Actual 1990-91	Actual 1989-90	Increase (Decrease)	Explanation Number
	24-1	**Seniors Directorate**				
113,400		a) Salaries	116,300	89,300	27,000	
163,600		b) Expenditures	141,400	107,000	34,400	
277,000	Total	24-1	257,700	196,300	61,400	1
277,000	**Total Expenditures**		**257,700**	**196,300**	**61,400**	

Explanation Number:

1. As 1989/90 was the Directorate's first year of operation, its staff complement was not filled and many of its new initiatives were not completed in this fiscal year. The increase in expenditures for the 1990/91 fiscal year reflects these additional costs and responsibilities.

Seniors Directorate

Five Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Appropriation ($000)

for fiscal year ending March 31, 1988 – March 31, 1991

	Actual Expenditures									
	1986-87		1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
Appropriation	SY	$	SY	$	SY	$	SY	$	SY	$
Seniors Directorate	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.00	196,300	3.00	257,700
Total							2.00	196,300	3.00	257,700

* Department was formed in October 1988.